



## **Tacoma Power's Responses to Questions about Fisheries Projects at the Cushman Hydroelectric Project**

### **1. What is the purpose of the clearing work at Lake Kokanee?**

*The clearing is the first step in the construction of the North Fork Hatchery at that location. This hatchery will rear and release spring Chinook, coho, and steelhead into the North Fork Skokomish River at the base of the No. 2 Dam.*

### **2. Exactly when will the North Fork Hatchery project be completed?**

*Construction of the North Fork Hatchery is scheduled to be complete by late summer of 2015.*

### **3. Will there be a tree barrier between the North Fork Hatchery and nearby homes? Will there be any more trees removed?**

*No further tree removal is planned for the site. We will be landscaping and replanting around the perimeter of the property towards the end of construction to improve its aesthetic qualities and soften views.*

### **4. After the completion of the North Fork Hatchery: 1) Will there be noise? 2) Will there be an odor?**

*The staffing level will be low, with 2-5 people as the normal operational staff, so additional vehicle traffic to the area will be low. Our fish hauling trucks are about the size of a flatbed pickup truck with a tank on the back of it, so the noise level from vehicles will be minimal. We have a backup generator that will be located indoors. You may hear it start up once each week for testing, but we expect that it will be on for 15 minutes and then turned back off. Water is crucial for fish survival, so we have alarms built into the facility to alert us if there is a lack of water. You may occasionally hear an alarm. When we test our alarms we will make every effort to use silent tests or reduced sound levels. There will be the light sound of water falling at the top of the water storage tank, but the main hatchery pumps are located near the dam, well away from the hatchery so you will not hear those.*

*We will be producing healthy, high quality juvenile fish with great care being taken to keep the facility as clean as possible. A properly-operated fish hatchery is not a source of "stinky-fishy" odors.*

**5. What is going on at the Dam on Lake Cushman?**

*The face of No.1 Dam is being prepared for the installation of the floating juvenile fish collector that is being assembled in at Skokomish Park.*

**6. What's in the white tent at Skokomish Park?**

*The floating juvenile fish collector is being assembled at Skokomish Park. It is covered in the white plastic tent while it is being painted. This collector will be launched into Lake Cushman in late August, floated down to the face of the dam, and installed.*

**7. What is the purpose of the clearing on left (east) side of Cushman No. 1 Dam?**

*The clearing and re-grading work taking place on the east side of the dam is the placement of an in-ground anchor for the new boat barrier and the guide net that is associated with the floating juvenile fish collector. The anchor needed to be set and buried, and the land around the area re-contoured to provide adequate ground stability.*

**8. Will the Lake Cushman water elevation be maintained differently than normal (longer after Labor Day) for the floating juvenile fish collector construction?**

*Water elevations in Lake Cushman will not change from the normal schedule that has already been put in place.*

**9. We would like to see a copy of the North Fork Hatchery 'plans' as we are interested in knowing exactly where the buildings will be located and where the hatchery itself will be located.**

*We will have the plans available for you to look at during the July 17 public meeting.*